The Commoner.

way hog and purpose getting him," says the general passenger agent. It is to be hoped that the campaign against the "railway hog" will be taken up by every railroad in the land and carried to a successful conclusion.

The state of Georgia owns the Western & Atlantic railroad and leases it for an annual

Making Railroads Pay.

rental of \$420,000. Of course, the people of the state are opposed to any propositions contemplating the sale of the property to private individuals

or corporations. The state of Illinois derives an enormous revenue from the Illinois Central railroad by reason of a clause in the charter which compels that road to pay into the state treasury 7 per cent of the gross earnings of the main line. There is a hint in this to those new states and future states that may some time be called upon to deal with the railroad problem.

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It would seem to the casual observer that it is high time the nation performed a simple act of justice by bestowing some mark recognition upon a naval Clark officer who seems to have been of lost sight of in the present un the Oregon.

fortunate imbroglio. Captain Charles Clark, who commanded the Oregon, has not been accorded the recognition due him for his gallant services. Instead of being promoted and rewarded he actually lost rank. The Oregon's memorable run from San Francisco to Santiago will be recorded in history and not forgotten while the American navy exists. The part played by the Oregon in the naval battle of Santiago fired with enthusiasm every Amercan heart. But the gallant commander of that great fighting machine-what of him?

000 The utter heartlessness of the war upon the Boers is well defined by one of General Kitch ener's latest reports. Speaking of the military operations "Have Had under his command he says: Good "All the divisions have had Bags." good bags." Then he proceeds to recount the number of Boers killed and wounded. "All the divisions have had good bags!" That is the language of the sportsman when he speaks of the number of rabbits, quail or grouse he has killed. It is fitting that such a heartless expression should come from

a man whose soldiers boasted of the "excellent pig sticking" at Elandslaagte. In these two phrases the world may find a measure of the heartless greed that has prompted the strongest monarchy in the world to make war upon one of the smallest republics in the world.

The court of inquiry sustained Admiral Schley's protest against Rear Admiral Howison. The testimony showed that Admiral Howison had ex-Initial pressed sentiments indicating Victory that he had formed an opinion for Schley. so conclusive and so prejudiced that it was improbable that he could have done justice to Admiral Schley. Admiral

Howison did not deny the statement of fact, but insisted that his private utterances had no part in the proceeding, and he reiterated his statement that he was capable of being an unprejudiced judge. It did not take Admirals Dewey and Benham long to pass on Admiral Schley's protest. Within a very short time they sustained that protest and Admiral Howison retired from the board. This may be accepted as Admiral Schley's initial victory in this proceeding.

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Although it was evident that there were serious objections to Admiral Howison, he was

A Severe Rebuke for Mr. Hackett.

practically forced upon that board by Assistant Secretary Hackett, whose animus toward the hero of Santiago Bay is generally understood. It is to

be regretted that with the very first protest Admiral Howison did not ask to be relieved from service in this court of inquiry. The objections to Admiral Howison were based on such strong grounds that they at once appealed to the general public, and long ago it seems to have been the popular verdict that Admiral Howison should be retired from the board. The court's decision will meet with very general favor, because it indicates that Admirals Dewey and Benham are willing to do justice to Admiral Schley, a thing which certain men high in authority in the navy department are very evidently unwilling to do.

No Missionaries Need Apply.

Congressman Hull seems to have brought back considerable information from the Philippine Islands, and he has been sharing it with the public on the installment plan. It is a dull paper that does not contain some item of news furnished by the gentleman from Iowa, whose timber concessions in the Philippines would be an excuse the maintainance of a large army, even if we were under no obligations to "manifest destiny." Being an observing man he has made investigations in every direction and his comments cover a wide range. Nothing that he has said, however, will prove more interesting to those who argue that Divine Providence has led us into the Orient for the extention of the Christian religion, than his remarks about the missionary field over there. He says:

"At present everything is very quiet in Mindanao, but if missionaires ever get down there, there will be serious trouble. The Moros are Mohammedans, and polygamy is part of their religion. Just as soon as the preachers get to work among them, preaching against plural wives, our difficulties will begin, and when these people rebel we will have our hands full. They are a flerce, warlike tribe, and do not know what surrender means. Like all Moslems, they are fanatical to the last degree, and will fight for their religion till the very last.

"They are a stay-at-home race and have mingled very little with the other islanders, and retain all the traits of their Mohammedan ancestors. Spain never made any attempt to govern them and thus avoided trouble. As long as we do not meddle with their affairs there is little danger of conflict, but any attempt to make them conform to our methods of morality or religion will pro-

voke war. There are not less than 300,000 of the Moros, and war with them would make our trouble with the Filipinos look like child's play."

The above dispatch taken from the columns of the Inter-Ocean would indicate that Mr. Hull would not encourage missionary work in Mindanao. But what is the use of going to the Philippines for missionary work if we are to keep away from the place where missionary work is most needed? Mr. Hull seems to think that we should adopt Mr. Watterson's plan and 'avoid trouble" by not trying to do anything. Perhaps we could suspend our moral principles in dealing with the Moslems provided they would enter into profitable trade relations with us. Verily, Imperialism is a queer thing. We shall learn more of it as the years go by, and the more we learn of it, the less we are likely to like it.

Dooley Discusses Candidates.

Mr. Dunn, the humorist, has faily outdone himself in his discussion of the men who have been suggested for the Democratic presidential nomination. His business is to find the weak points in the armor of each, and every public public man has some weak points. He condenses the whole question into a sentence when he says that the difficulty is that every candidate mentioned is "either a traitor or a man whom the traitors won't vote for." He intimates that the party might advertise for a candidate, and outlines an advertisement which ought to be satisfactory to those Democrats who want a candidate who will believe in enough things to please everybody and yet not believe in anything earnestly enough to offend anybody. The proposed advertisement reads:

"Wanted-A good, active, inergetic dimmy-crat, sthrong iv lung an' limb; must be in favor iv sound money, but not too sound, an' anti-impeeryalist, but f'r holdin' onto what we've got, an inimy iv thrusts, but a frind iv organized capital, a sympathizer with th' crushed an' downthrodden people, but not be anny means hostile to vested inth'rests; must advocate sthrikes, gover'mint be injunction, free silver, sound money, greenbacks, a single tax, a tariff f'r rivinoo, th' constituotion to follow th' flag as far as it can go, an' no farther, civil service rayform iv th' la'ads in office an' all th' gr-reat an' gloryous principles iv our gr-reat an' gloryous party or anny gr-reat an' gioryous parts

One beauty about Dooley's writings is that he appears to have no malice. His wit is so clean and innocent that even his victims enjoy his thrusts.

Missouri Missou.

By FRED EMERSON BROOKS. Missouri, Missou, We're enamored of you, The great thinking heart of the nation. You could feed all the rest Without being pressed And furnish them choice occupation.

You have ready at hand All we mortals demand, With a sky of such radiant blue, Thy children here dwelling. Can never cease telling Thy glory, Missouri, Missou!

Missouri, Missou, We're enamored of you-Thy soil like the great rolling billows, Where the harvest lays down Her corn-tassel crown, With her grain tresses spread on the pillows.

Thy daughters are fair, And thy sons will compare With the standards our ancestors knew; So rich, every acre-Smiles back to her maker, Thy glory, Missouri, Missou!